CONNECTICUT PACKAGE STORES ASSOCIATION



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Senator Meyer, Representative Roy and members of the Environment Committee, the Connecticut Package Stores Association (CPSA) represents the 1,100 off-premise package store retailers in the state of Connecticut. We work to promote and protect their integral role as one of the three tiers of the alcohol beverage industry in CT. We submit this testimony in opposition to S.B. No. 57 (COMM) AN ACT EXPANDING THE BEVERAGE CONTAINER REDEMPTION SYSTEM.

We have to oppose this initiative at this time. We believe that with the advent of expanded curbside recycling and even single-stream recycling, that Connecticut consumers are already increasing their recycling efforts. Adding juice, punch, tea and sport drinks will only further complicate the current process in stores of all sizes. There are so many private label products out there and package stores are mandated to take back only those products they sell. Most stores take the private label products back anyway for their customers and absorb the cost of recycling the item. Additionally, as it is since the expansion to water, it is already a very unsanitary environment in the recycling areas of most stores and additional items would only require stores to devote additional retail space to redemption centers and less to product offerings. We welcome further discussion on this matter.

Sincerely,

Alan Wilensky, President, CPSA Owner of Max's Package Store East Lyme, CT